#### **BLUE BADGE CRITERIA & APPLICATION PROCESS**

#### **ELIGIBILITY**

Please note that **all applications are treated as new**, even if a Blue Badge has been held before.

#### **Automatic**

You will qualify for a Blue Badge without further assessment if you:

- receive a Personal Independence Payment (PIP)\* with the following:
  - o 8 points or more for the 'Moving Around' part of the mobility section
  - 10 points in the 'Planning and Following a Journey' part of the mobility section. The description <u>must</u> be: unable to undertake a journey due to considerable psychological distress.
- receive the higher rate of the mobility component of the Disability Living Allowance.
- receive a war pensioner's mobility supplement.
- are registered blind (partially sighted is not an automatic qualification).

#### **Further Assessment**

#### Physical Disabilities

You may qualify for a badge if you are over two years old and:

- have an enduring and substantial disability, which means you are unable to walk or have considerable difficulty whilst walking.
- drive a motor vehicle regularly, have a severe disability in both arms and are unable to operate, or have considerable difficulty in operating, all or some types of parking meters.

#### Non-physical Disabilities

You may qualify for a badge if you are more than two years old and:

- are unable to walk.
- experience very considerable difficulty whilst walking during the course of a journey, including considerable psychological distress.
- could be at risk of serious harm, or pose a risk of serious harm to another person.

#### Children under the age of 2 years

A parent of a child who is under two years old may apply for a badge for their child, if the child has a medical condition which means they:

- have bulky medical equipment which must always accompany the child.
- must be near a vehicle at all times to receive treatment, either in the vehicle, or driven to a place where the child will receive treatment.

### **APPLYING FOR A BLUE BADGE**

You can apply online for a Blue Badge via the official GOV.UK website.

You will need:

- Your National Insurance Number
- Your driving licence number (if you have one)
- The details of your current Blue Badge (if you have one)
- A passport style photograph, in colour and a true likeness
- Proof of residency\*
- Proof of identity\*
- Proof of relevant benefits dated within the last 12 months if applying under one of these categories

If you are applying under the further assessment category, **please provide as much information as possible** about your conditions and how they affect you when prompted on the form.

#### **PAYMENT**

Blue Badges cost £10.

We will only charge you if your application is successful.

If successful, we will contact you, by letter or telephone to make a payment. We will not issue your badge until we have received payment.

We will only issue a refund if we have taken payment in error. Returns or cancellations are not accepted.

#### **DECLINED APPLICATIONS**

If we refuse your application, it is unlikely that you are currently eligible for a Blue Badge.

If you feel that the decision to refuse a Blue Badge is wrong, you can request a review of the decision. The request must be made within 28 days of the date of receiving the refusal.

You must make the request in writing (by letter or email) to the Blue Badge Supervisor and detail:

- If you feel that you did not provide enough information on the application form, explaining what information was missing.
- Why you feel that the decision is wrong.

We may ask you to provide medical confirmation of your disability / medical condition. You will receive a response to your request within 28 days of receipt.

<sup>\*</sup>details of acceptable documents can be found <a href="here">here</a>.

# **Appendix C**

If we still refuse your application after requesting a review of the decision, this decision will be final. You can't make another application within three months of the final decision, unless your mobility changes significantly during that time.

## **CONTACT DETAILS**

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